IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Keohane et al. Group Art Unit: 2152

§ § § § Serial No.: 10/655,371 Examiner: Truong, Lan-Dai T.

Attorney Docket No.: AUS920030641US1 Filed: September 4, 2003

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For: Method for Automatically Sending Away Notifications in an Email Messaging

System

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

No fees are believed to be necessary. If, however, any fees are required, I authorize the Commissioner to charge these fees to IBM Corporation Deposit Account No. 09-0447. No extension of time is believed to be necessary. If, however, an extension of time is necessary, I authorize the Commissioner to charge the necessary extension fees to IBM Corporation Deposit Account No. 09-0447.

Prior to continued examination of this application, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendment to the Specification begins on page 2 of this paper.

Listing of Claims begins on **page 3** of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 4 of this paper.